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Message Text

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66
ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 ARA-06 EA-06 EUR-12 NEA-06 RSC-01 AGR-05

AID-05 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 SWF-01 CIAE-00 INR-05

NSAE-00 ISO-00 L-02 /071 W
---------- 066491
R 031945Z DEC 74
FM USMISSION USUN NEWYORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8105
INFO AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION OECD PARIS UNN
USMISSION EC BRUSSLES 947
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: UN, FAO, WFC
SUBJ: UNGA CONSIDERATION OF WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE;
WEO MEETING

1. SUMMARY: MIN-COUN SPOKE TO MEMBERS OF WEO GROUP TO RELAY US IMPRESSION OF CURRENT STATUS OF UNGA CONSIDERATION OF WFC REPORT. MAJORITY OF INTEREST WAS IN COMPOSITION OF WORLD FOOD COUNCIL. END SUMMARY.

2. MIN-COUN STATED THAT SIZE OF FOOD COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP SHOULD BE APPROXIMATELY 25. HE STATED THAT SIX SEPARATE GROUPS SHOULD BE RREPRESENTED: MAJOR FOOD EXPORTERS, CASH IMPORTERS, MAJOR CONCESSIONAL IMPORTERS, OPEC, USSR/PRC, AND INFALLY OTHER COUNTRIES NOT INCLUDED IN ABOVE GROUPS. AS AN EXAMPLE, HE INDICATED THAT MAJOR FOOD EXPORTERS MIGHT INCLUDE USA, CANADA, AUSTRALIA, ARGENTINA AND BRAZIL; CASH IMPORTERS COULD INCLUDE JAPAN, UK AND FRG; CONCESSIONAL IMPORTERS WOULD BE INDIA, BANGLADESH AND PAKISTAN; AND
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OPEC MEMBERS MIGHT BE SAUDI ARABIA, IRAN AND VENEZUELA.

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LOOKED AT ON THE BASIS OF GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION, THE BREAKDOWN MIGHT BE AS FOLLOWS: WEO -- USA, CANADA, AUSTRALIA, FRANCE, UK AND FRG; LATIN AMERICA -- ARGENTINA, BRAZIL, VENEZUELA; ASIA, JAPAN, INDIA, BANGLADESH AND PAKISTAN; AFRICAN -- ONE WEST AFRICAN, ONE EAST AFRICAN, ONE CENTRAL AFRICAN; MIDDLE EASTERN -- IRAN AND SAUDI ARABIA; AND USSR AND PRC. THIS FORMULATION WOULD LEAVE BETWEEN FIVE AND SEVEN SWING SEATS TO BE DISTRIBUTED AS FOLLOWS: ONE SOCIALIST, ONE LA, ONE ASIAN, ONE MIDDLE-EASTERN, ONE AFRICAN AND ONE WEO (NORDIC?).

3. GENERALLY THERE WAS SUPPORT FOR COUNCIL OF ABOUT 25 MEMBERS (UK, THE NETHERLANDS, NEW ZEALAND, CANADA, AUSTRALIA AND UK). SEVERAL COUNTRIES FELT THAT THIS NUMBER MIGHT BE TOO POLITICALLY RESTRICTED (FRANCE, SWEDEN) FINLAND, NEW ZEALAND, AUSTRIA AND SWITZERLAND SAID THAT WHILE NOT PRESENTLY CANDIDATES THEY COULD NOT AGREE ON ANY FORMULA WHICH WOULD PERMANENTLY PRECLUDE THEIR MEMBERSHIP. QUESTION OF ACTUAL CANDIDACIES HAS ONLY BEEN OPENED IN WEO GROUP AND IS DUE TO BE REHASHED SUBSEQUENTLY. NEW ZEALAND AND SWEDEN ALSO QUESTIONED IF IN VIEW OF COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY EC-9 MIGHT BE REPRESENTED BY ONE SEAT ON COUNCIL AND FURTHER WHETHER IT MIGHT BE APPROPRIATE NOT TO CONTINUE TO ENSURE PERM-MEMBERS OF AUTOMATIC REPRESENTATION ON ALL UN BODIES.

4. US DEL REVIEWED STATUS OF CONSULATIONS WITH G-77 CONTACT GROUP LOOKING TOWARDS A CONFIRMATION OF THE CONSENSUS AGREEMENTS REACHED IN ROME. AT PRESENT, US DEL AWAITING RESULTS OF G-77 PLENARY MEETING ON WFC RES. BENNETT

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